

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF  
PROPOSITION 26

250 Word Ballot Argument Rebuttal

Do you want corporations to write special protections into California's Constitution?

Should California protect polluters at the expense of public safety?

That's what Prop 26 is: big oil, tobacco, and alcohol companies want taxpayers to pay for cleaning their mess. As a result, local police and fire departments will have fewer resources to keep us safe.

The claim that Prop 26 won't harm consumers and the environment is false.

Corporations are spending millions misleading voters into thinking that the payments made by companies that pollute or harm public health are "hidden taxes." The campaign's own website cited "Oil severance fee to mitigate oil spill clean up, and build larger response and enforcement capabilities" as a hidden tax.

Here are some other fees they don't want to pay—listed in their own documents:

- Fees on polluters to clean up hazardous waste
- Fees on oil companies for oil spill cleanup
- Fees on tobacco companies for the adverse health effects of tobacco products.

**SUBJECT TO COURT  
ORDERED CHANGES**

PROPOSITION 26 IS BAD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, &  
TAXPAYERS.

The California Professional Firefighters, League of Women Voters of California,  
California Nurses Association, Sierra Club, Planning & Conservation League,  
Californians Against Waste, and California Tax Reform Association all oppose 26  
because it would force ordinary citizens to pay for the damage done by polluters.

Californians can't afford to clean up polluters' messes when local governments are  
cutting essential services like police and fire departments.

**WE NEED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC, NOT POLLUTERS!**

**VOTE NO on 26.**

(250 words)

Signers:

Ron Cottingham, President, Peace Officers Research Association of California

Warner Chabot, Chief Executive Officer, California League of Conservation Voters

Patty Velez, President, California Association of Professional Scientists

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